



The Friendly News

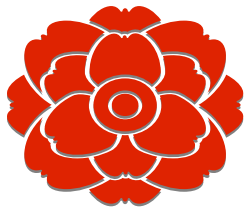
<p>San Antonio Quakers 7052 N. Vandiver (at Eisenhower) San Antonio, Texas 78209</p>	<p>Message Phone: 210.945.8456 Website: www.sanantonioquakers.org Facebook: @saquakers</p>
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News

Community Yard Sale May 4 from 9 am to 1 pm Check your ABC's. Attic, Basement, Closet – or their equivalents. Yes, it's a go for the parking lot extravaganza. We already have interest from two with Household items, one with pottery & jewelry, another just jewelry, and a rerun of Nicki's native plants. Meeting will have a tent for books, another for Peace Teams and Friends' organizations and one for Greg who will improvise for food [hot or cold TBDetermined]. Donations from Trader Joe's, Broadway Bread and Starbucks will fill out the menu.

BOOKS are needed for the sale, including hard cover and paperbacks, DVD's and CD's. You can bring them to the library in advance or on the day. There are 14 slots for vendors including Meeting, so if YOU have art, craft, fancy or plain stuff to sell, **text 631-742-2863 to reserve a 10-foot space for \$10**. Please wear your FMSA tee shirt; there are a couple of extra ones hanging in the foyer. Space is limited to 14 slots and ten are spoken for now. So first text... [See p 6 for the poster. Please make copies and distribute them in April.]

Yearly Meeting will take place on Zoom, starting Sunday, 3/24 and Zoom/in-person at Greene Family Camp from Thursday, 3/28 thru 3/31. Please see the website for full details and registration, at SCYM.org [more info on pp 4-5]



April Query: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters." What are the voids, solid ground, and light in your life today?

We have built our Meeting House on Payaya People’s land.

Here are the direct links for our weekly activities.

- **Sunday Meetings for Worship**
10-11am, in-person in Meetinghouse & Zoom.
Children’s Program 1st & 3rd Sundays
[CLICK HERE](#) to join by Zoom
ID # 976 0522 6497; passcode: 194077
- **Sunday Forums: 11:30-12:30**
[CLICK HERE](#) to join by Zoom
ID # 976 0522 6497; passcode: 194077
- **Friday Meeting for Worship – Fridays 8-8:30 AM**
[CLICK HERE](#) to join by Zoom –
ID # 976 0522 6497; passcode: 194077
- **1st Sunday Potluck Lunch; Children’s Program**
3rd Saturday “Meeting for Weeding”
- **3rd Sunday Meeting for Worship with Attention**
To Business *join by Zoom* – Children’s Program
ID # 976 0522 6497; passcode: 194077
- **For ALL Zoom Meetings: by telephone at**
+1 346 248 7799, then enter ID#

Contents	
p 1-	Yard Sale May 4
p 2	March Query, Regular & Special Events; Unhoused People
p 3-4	Solar Eclipse
p 4-5	Yearly Meeting, Humor
p 5	Young Friends
p 6	Yard Sale Poster
p 7-8	FCNL; Quaker history trip
p 9	Meeting for Weeding

Special Events

- APR 7 Young Friends 10-11; Potluck 11:15**
- 14 Forum: TBA 11:30**
- 21 Young Friends 10-11; Meeting for Business 11:30**
- 28 Forum TBA 11:30**

Concern for Unhoused People Visiting Meeting Grounds is the focus of an Ad Hoc committee which will explore our options and make a recommendation for a policy. The clerk of Property Committee has taken on the temporary responsibility for cleaning up, particularly on Thursday mornings when the preschool program meets. **But Meeting as a whole needs to grapple with this ethical and practical problem.**



Bluebonnets after a rain

Photo by Jim

April 8 total solar eclipse. Jim & Meredith have invited us to view this rare event from their front yard. Please bring your own chair and refreshments to share. **Parking is limited, so carpool if you can.**

Times (at 30545 Bridle gate Dr, Bulverde):

Start of Partial Eclipse => 12:15pm

Start of Total Eclipse => 1:34pm

End of Total Eclipse => 1:36pm

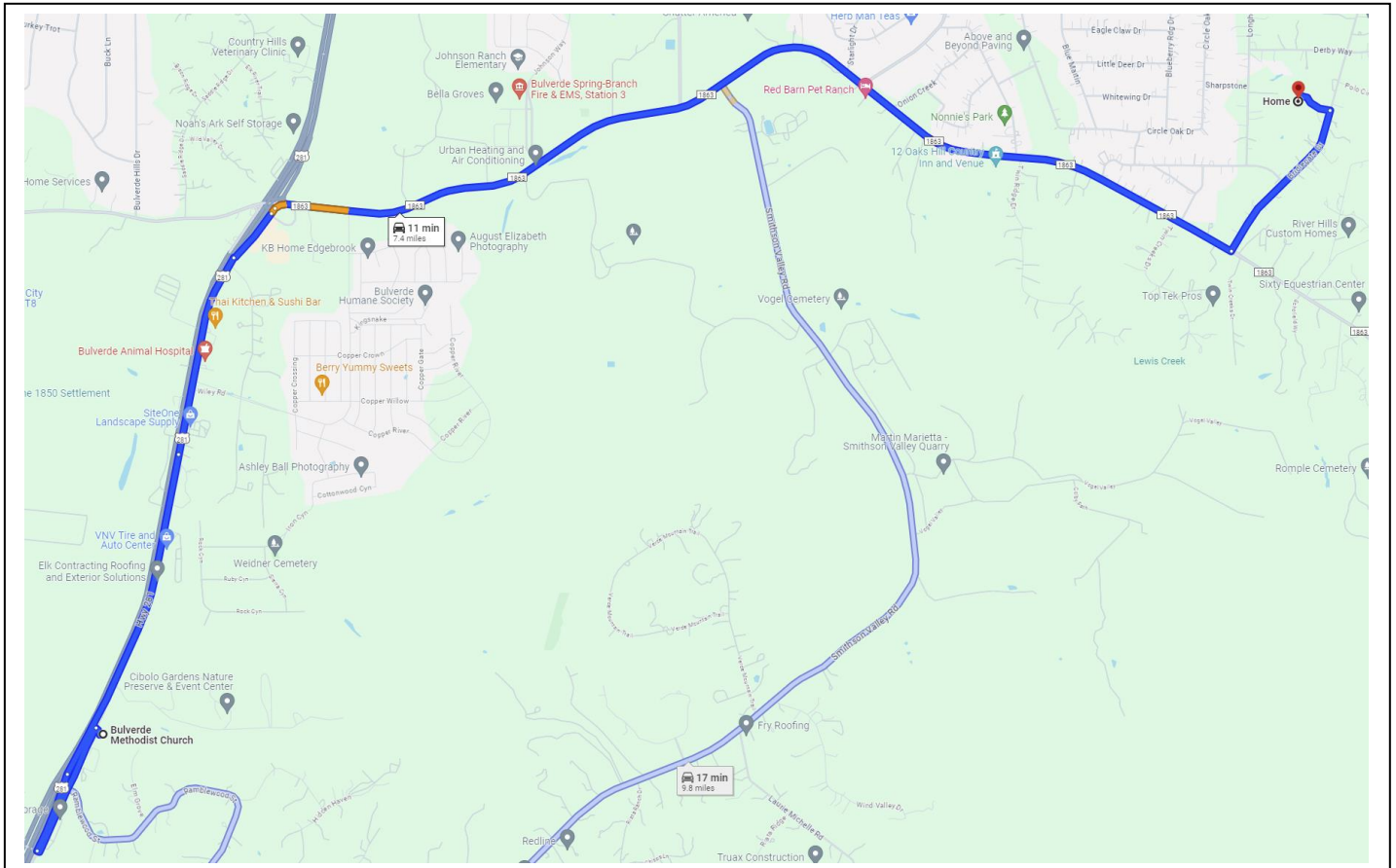
End of Partial Eclipse => 2:56pm

Here's a map to our house. The directions are:

- Drive north on Hwy 281 until you cross Cibolo Creek into Comal County
- Continue a bit less than 3 miles to just past the top of the next hill and exit to FM 1863. Go right onto 1863 at the bottom of the hill (stop light).
- Drive east 3.6 miles to Bridlegate Drive, which only goes left. (There is a left turn lane.)
- Go north 0.6 miles to our driveway: blue 30545 sign on the left and a teeter-totter sign on the right.. (Neighbors' driveway is the blue 30475 sign just before it.) If

you reach the park (on the left), you've gone too far, so turn around in the park's parking lot and come back.

- Take the first right on the driveway. It's marked with another blue 30545 sign. You can see the neighbors' gray house straight ahead; that's not ours.
- Drive across the concrete bridge and past the "Dragon Crossing" sign. Park off the driveway to the right or left OR continue up the drive to more parking nearer
- the house.



News of the Yearly Meeting

Being a Quaker Today: Nurturing Our Soul, Brightening Our Light, and Acting on Our Faith The annual session takes place at the Greene Family Camp near Waco, TX. with adult and young Friends programs, worship, games and swimming [weather permitting]. Visit the website for more information and registration.

Events from Saturday, March 23-Wednesday, March 27 will be held online via Zoom. Events from Thursday, March 28-Sunday, March 31 will be held in-person at Greene

Family Camp (GFC) & online livestream (video with no interaction) and via Zoom interactively on Sunday.

Registration for in-person attendance at Greene Family Camp for Thursday, March 28-Sunday, March 31 will closed on Monday, March 11. Registrations for online access will be accepted throughout the duration of YM.

Pamela Haines will be the keynote speaker this year. She writes: “I am active with my local Quaker meeting, a regional Quaker Eco-Justice Collaborative, Mill Creek Urban Farm, and the Philadelphia Public Banking Coalition. I tend the earth in my community garden and with the Philadelphia Orchard Project.”

Quaker Humor

We will follow this course of action as the way opens... means: “If we’re going to do this, somebody better cough up a big chunk of change.”

[p 41, Quaker Lite 2 ½ - The Lite Within, by Stan Banker, 2002]

Young Friends’ Program

Three new raised beds for the pre-school program. Our children are growing pepper plants at home to transplant to their bed, the weathered one, when weather permits.



COMMUNITY YARD SALE



QUAKER MEETINGHOUSE
7052 N. VANDIVER RD - SAN ANTONIO

2024 QUAKER FAIR
Net proceeds go to charities & service groups
Text Gretchen for more info: 631-742-2863

Friends Committee on National Legislation

FCNL Prioritization Update

On March 24, eleven people met to complete our discussion of issues to recommend that FCNL prioritize its advocacy on in the coming congressional term. (See the last newsletter for more info) Those issues were:

- Climate Crisis
- Immigration
- Military Reform
- Protecting Democracy
- Gun Safety

The group also discussed several areas of concern on the state/local level that we may wish to address individually or as a Meeting, including Reproductive Rights, LGBTQ+ Rights, Immigration, Education (anti-voucher, book censorship), Accessibility of Medical Care to lower income folks. The Committee for Peace and Social Concerns will continue to work with these issues going forward.

Every February, we bear witness to Black history in the United States and around the world. Although Friends of color make up over half the world's Quaker population, their stories, accomplishments, and concerns are vastly under-represented within the Religious Society of Friends. Harold Weaver Jr. and The Black Quaker Project, a ministry of Wellesley Friends Meeting, center this harmful reality in their approach to retrospective justice. In collaboration with the Quaker United Nations Office of Geneva, their work promotes equality, justice, peace, and truth by calling out systemic violence caused by white supremacy.

Visit The Black Quaker Project's [Quakers of Color International Archive](#) and their [Anti-Violence Resource Guide for Quakers Confronting Systemic Violence](#).

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, Christian churches collaborated with the government to create hundreds of boarding schools for Native American children. The conditions at these institutions, some of them Quaker-run, were horrific. Abuse, malnutrition, and even death were commonplace. Yet, the United States government has never truly acknowledged the historical trauma of the Indian boarding school era. We can change that in the 118th Congress. The Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act (S. 1723; H.R. 7227) has been re-introduced in both the Senate and House. We must now ensure the bill is passed in both chambers.

[Remind your members of Congress of their responsibility to tribal nations, and urge them to start the healing process by passing the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies bill!](#)

Around the world, climate change is having an immediate and outsized impact on developing countries, many of which lack the financial means to respond effectively. The United States and other wealthy nations have committed to spending billions annually to help these countries transition to clean energy and adapt to the ravages of climate change. That promise, unfortunately, remains unfulfilled. With climate impacts increasing in their severity and compounding crises worldwide, this is a critical moment for the United States to live up to its commitment.

[Tell your members of Congress: Support increased climate impact funding in the FY2024 State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations bill!](#)

FCNL Joins National Effort to Rein in Harmful Arms Sales

[We joined Amnesty International and 18 other leading organizations to urge Congress to pass the SAFEGUARD Act](#) (S.1025/H.R. 1801) This legislation would strengthen oversight on arms sales to ensure that U.S. weapons are not used to violate human rights or enable war crimes.

FCNL's Work Toward a Just Peace in Israel-Palestine

On Wednesday, we hosted an online discussion about the role of Quakers as changemakers for just peace. Our speakers outlined the history and context that we are stepping into as we work toward a ceasefire in Israel-Palestine.

Congress Continues to Debate Harmful Funding Proposals

As debates continue on a supplemental spending bill, Congress continues to weigh harmful proposals linking funding military funding for Israel and Ukraine to harmful, anti-immigrant policies. [Read an excellent update](#) from FCNL partner Yumna Rizvi in the Hill.

Trip to Explore Quaker History

Quaker Journey: Exploring the Roots of Quakerism in England's Lake District - June 23-30 - 2 SPOTS LEFT <https://www.cfsnc.org/extended-learning/adult-enrichment/quaker-journey>.

I went on this trip in 2018 and will go again this year - I loved it that much! There are 2 spots left, and the trip draws travelers from many places. I first went as a member of Chapel Hill (NC) Friends Meeting, and Carolina Friends School sponsors the trip. It is a unique and wonderful experience. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask me at karenporteresq@gmail.com

—Karen Porter, San Marcos

Meeting for Weeding

